

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A contents management apparatus that manages contents including a plurality of contents elements representing information to be provided to a user, comprising:
 - a contents request acquiring unit that acquires contents request information from the user;
 - an education curriculum determining unit that receives the contents request from the acquiring unit and determines an education curriculum based on the information in the contents request;
 - a contents element extracting unit that extracts the contents elements based on the education curriculum and the contents request information when the contents request acquiring unit acquires the contents request information from the user; and
 - a contents restructuring unit that restructures new contents from the contents elements extracted.
2. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements from a plurality of different contents.
3. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a contents storage unit that stores the contents, wherein
 - the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements from the contents stored in the contents storage unit.
4. (Currently amended) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein
 - the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with contents relevant information that is related ~~with~~ to the contents elements, and
 - the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the contents relevant information.

5. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with a genre of the contents elements, and the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the genres.
6. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with a level of importance of the contents elements, and the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the level of importance.
7. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with a popularity of the contents elements, and the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents element based on the popularity.
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently amended) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising a user information acquiring unit that acquires user identification information for identifying the user to be provided with the contents, wherein the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on user relevant information that is related ~~with~~to the user identification information acquired.
10. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on a learning level of the user corresponding to the user identification information.

11. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 10,
wherein

the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with an updating date
of the contents elements, and

the contents element extracting unit extracts, based on the contents elements and a
providing date recorded in the user identification information as previously provided, the
contents elements corresponding to the updating date after the providing date.

12. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
contents element extracting unit extracts contents elements other than the contents elements
previously provided to the user.

13. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 12,
further comprising:

a contents providing unit that provides the contents to the user;

an evaluation acquiring unit that acquires an evaluation of the contents elements included
in the contents provided from the user who used the contents; and

an updating unit that updates contents element relevant information that is related with
the contents elements based on the evaluations acquired.

14. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 9, further
comprising a user information storage unit that stores the user identification information and the
user relevant information corresponding to each other.

15. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein

the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with an updating date
of the contents elements, and

the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the updating
date.

16. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein

the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with a creating date
of the contents elements, and

the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the creating
date.

17. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein

the contents elements include at least one of moving image data and sound data,

the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with a playing time
of the contents elements, and

the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the playing
time and a total playing time of the contents to be restructured.

18. (Currently amended) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1,
further comprising a specification acquiring unit that acquires specification information
representing contents elements to be included in the contents that are restructured by the
contents restructuring unit from the user, wherein

the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements specified by the
specification information acquired.

19. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein the contents restructuring unit restructures the contents elements based on a
predetermined structuring order.

20. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1,
wherein when the contents elements represent contents related to learning and when the contents
elements are corresponding to a level of the learning, the contents restructuring unit restructures
the contents elements based on the level of the learning.

21. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a similarity determining unit that determines similarity between the contents elements to be restructured by the contents restructuring unit, wherein

upon the similarity determining unit determining that two predetermined contents elements are similar, the contents restructuring unit includes only one of the two contents elements in the new contents.

22. (Original) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an accounting unit that collects billing information when the contents elements included in the new contents are related with the billing information.

23. (Currently amended) The contents management apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

the contents include lecture contents information having at least one of moving image data, sound data, and still image data, and meta contents description information related ~~with~~ to the contents elements, and

the meta contents description information includes lecture relevant information about a lecture and inter-contents-information representing a relation between the contents elements.

24. (Currently amended) A contents management system comprising;

a contents management apparatus that manages contents including a plurality of contents elements representing information to be provided to a user; and

a contents providing apparatus that provides the contents to the user, wherein the contents providing apparatus includes

a contents request acquiring unit that acquires contents request information from the user;

an education curriculum determining unit that receives the contents request from the acquiring unit and determines an education curriculum based on the information in the contents request;

a contents element extracting unit that extracts the contents elements based on the education curriculum and the contents request information when the contents request acquiring unit acquires the contents request information from the user;

a contents restructuring unit that restructures new contents from the contents elements extracted; and
a contents providing unit that provides the new contents to the user,
the contents management apparatus includes a contents storage unit that stores a plurality of contents from which the contents element extracting unit of the contents providing apparatus extracts the contents elements, and
the contents management apparatus and the contents providing apparatus communicate with each other via a network.

25. (Original) The contents management system according to claim 24, wherein the contents providing apparatus further includes a user information storage unit that stores user relevant information about the user to whom the contents are provided, and the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the user relevant information stored in the user information storage unit.

26. (Currently amended) A contents management system comprising:
a contents management apparatus that manages contents including a plurality of contents elements representing information to be provided to a user; and
a contents providing apparatus that provides the contents to the user, wherein the contents management apparatus includes
a contents request acquiring unit that acquires contents request information from the user;
an education curriculum determining unit that receives the contents request from the acquiring unit and determines an education curriculum based on the information in the contents request;
a contents element extracting unit that extracts the contents elements based on the education curriculum and the contents request information when the contents request acquiring unit acquires the contents request information from the user;
a contents restructuring unit that restructures new contents from the contents elements extracted; and
a contents providing unit that provides the new contents to the user,

the contents providing apparatus includes an output unit that outputs the contents acquired from the contents providing apparatus via a network; and

a user information storage unit that stores user relevant information about the user to whom the contents are provided,

the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the user relevant information stored in the user information storage unit and

the contents element extracting unit of the contents management apparatus extracts the contents elements determined based on the user relevant information stored in the user information storage unit.

27. (Currently amended) A method of managing contents including a plurality of contents elements, representing information to be provided to a user, comprising:

acquiring contents request information from the user;

determining an education curriculum based on the information in the contents request;

extracting the contents elements based on the education curriculum and the contents request information when the contents request acquiring unit acquires the contents request information from the user; and

restructuring new contents from the contents elements extracted.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) A computer readable recording medium that stores a computer program that realizes a method of managing contents including a plurality of contents elements representing information to be provided to a user on a computer, and a plurality of contents to which the computer program refers, wherein the computer program makes the computer execute:

acquiring contents request information from the user;

determining an education curriculum based on the information in the contents request;

extracting the contents elements based on the education curriculum and the contents request information when the contents request acquiring unit acquires the contents request information from the user; and

restructuring new contents from the contents elements extracted.

30. (Currently amended) Contents data that includes a plurality of contents element data, comprising:

lecture contents information that includes at least one of moving image data, sound data, and still image data; and

meta contents description information related to the data, corresponding to at least one of the contents data and the contents element data, wherein

the meta contents description information includes lecture relevant information and inter-data information representing ~~relation~~ relations between the contents data, between the contents element data, and between the contents data and the contents element data.

31. (New) A contents management apparatus that manages contents including a plurality of contents elements representing information to be provided to a user, comprising:

a contents request acquiring unit that acquires contents request information from the user;

a contents element extracting unit that extracts the contents elements based on the contents request information when the contents request acquiring unit acquires the contents request information from the user;

a contents restructuring unit that restructures new contents from the contents elements extracted;

a contents storage unit that stores the contents,

wherein the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements from the contents stored in the contents storage unit,

the contents elements include information on lecturers,

the contents storage unit stores the contents elements in association with popularity of the lecturers, and

the contents element extracting unit extracts the contents elements based on the popularity.